

Spain: Berries and oranges stranded at French border due to storm

The cold front and snowstorm that have hit Spain are also taking a toll on Huelva's agricultural sector. Numerous trucks carrying both berries and oranges from Huelva are stranded at the French border and are having difficulties to take the goods to the markets.

However, the manager of Freshuelva, Rafael Domínguez, said that the berries that are being exported from Huelva in this stage of the campaign "are very firm and can withstand the inclement weather for a few days."

Dominguez has acknowledged that the situation of Spanish roads is also being affected by the storm, which is why he has asked the public administrations to act in order to keep the main roads in the country and the access roads to France in optimum condition, especially because large strawberry producers and marketers in Huelva are already immersed in the first important event of the year for the sector: Valentine's Day. It is an occasion in which red fruits play a special role in numerous countries in Europe.

For his part, the president of Freshuelva, Alberto Garrocho, has said that the low temperatures that are being recorded in recent days in the province of Huelva are not having a negative impact on the campaign. On the contrary, "this cold slows down the production process and, therefore, allows for a slower ripening of the fruit, which gives it an exceptional flavour, since the Brix increases."

Garrocho also pointed out that the prices currently being paid in the markets are higher than those recorded at this same time of the previous campaign.

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